erected, and on Purple Mountain, overlooking the city, was built an imposing tomb, to which, with great pomp, were brought the remains of Sun Yat-sen. Moreover, Nanking as a capital proved an advantage to the Nationalist Government. It had historic associations and it was removed from the galling presence of the armed legation quarter in Peking (now renamed Peiping). More important still, it was in the most populous and prosperous region of China. A government with headquarters there had a better chance of controlling the nation than if it had been off on the periphery, at Canton or Peiping.

In itself the Kuomintang helped to give unity to the country. Its organization was almost nation-wide. Its many units, the *Tangpu* (the name usually given to the executive committee of the local precinct or sub-precinct organization) had much influence in local affairs and headed up in the National Congress of the party. This was represented, in the long interims between meetings, by the Central Executive Committee. The Central Executive Committee, in turn, controlled the national government.

In many respects the political situation at the beginning of 1929 was more encouraging than at any time since the revolution of 1911. However, the nation's troubles were far from an end. Much of the country was overrun with bandits, some of whom were made more ruthless by the profession of Communist principles. Famine was taking a toll of millions of lives in the Northwest. In only a few provinces was Nanking's authority effective enough to bring taxes into the national treasury. In 1929 a serious rift appeared in the Kuomintang. The major military figures could not long live in harmony. In the spring

and summer of
1930 Yen Hsi-shan and Feng Yii-hsiang joined in opposing Chiang
Kai-shek. By the autumn of 1930 the latter had won and the
Nationalist Government at Nanking had gained a breathing space.
Feng Yii-hsiang was in semi-retirement, Yen Hsi-shan had with-
drawn first to the security of mountainous Shansi and then had
sought sanctuary in Tientsin, and Chang Hsiieh-liang, although
he had advanced his forces south of the Great Wall and had oc-
cupied much of Hopei (as the province of Chihli had been re-
named by the Nationalists), professed to be on friendly terms
with Nanking.